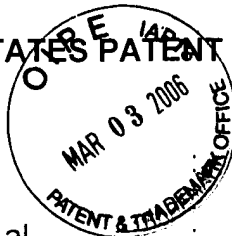


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

Norihiko FUCHIGAMI et al.

Serial No. 10/721,219

Art Unit: 2655

Filed: November 26, 2003

Examiner: Abebe, Daniel Demelash

For: AUDIO SIGNAL  
PROCESSING APPARATUS

Atty Docket: 0102/0233

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is a response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2006 in which pending claims 13-16 were provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness double patenting over claims 13-16 of co-pending application Serial No. 10/721,218. To overcome this provisional obviousness double patenting rejection, herewith submitted is a Terminal Disclaimer.

On a separate matter, in reviewing the Office Action and the attachments thereto, it is found that the foreign patent document (JP 11-109996) cited in the form PTO-1449 for the IDS filed with the filing of the instant application on November 26, 2003 has not been initialed by the examiner. Could the examiner kindly initial the '996 reference and send a copy of the thus initialed PTO-1449 form back to the applicant with the next communication. For the convenience of the examiner, a copy of the form PTO-1449 with the un-initialed foreign reference is attached herewith.



In light that no outstanding matter is believed to remain in this case, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass the case to issue at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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Louis Woo, Reg. No. 31,730  
Law Offices of Louis Woo  
717 North Fayette Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Phone: (703) 299-4090

Date: March 3, 2006